VZCZCXRO6208 OO RUEHAG RUEHDF RUEHIK RUEHLZ RUEHROV DE RUEHTH #0458 0871309 ZNR UUUUU ZZH O 271309Z MAR 08 FM AMEMBASSY ATHENS TO RUEHC/SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 1543 INFO RUCNMEM/EU MEMBER STATES COLLECTIVE PRIORITY RUEHVJ/AMEMBASSY SARAJEVO PRIORITY 0088 RUEHVB/AMEMBASSY ZAGREB PRIORITY 0352 RUEHBW/AMEMBASSY BELGRADE PRIORITY 0008 RUEHSQ/AMEMBASSY SKOPJE PRIORITY 1163 RUEHTI/AMEMBASSY TIRANA PRIORITY 1320 RUEHPOD/AMEMBASSY PODGORICA PRIORITY RUEHBJ/AMEMBASSY BEIJING PRIORITY 0255 RUEHMO/AMEMBASSY MOSCOW PRIORITY 0991 RUEHTV/AMEMBASSY TEL AVIV PRIORITY 0604 RUEHLB/AMEMBASSY BEIRUT PRIORITY 0216 RUEHDM/AMEMBASSY DAMASCUS PRIORITY 0287 RUEHJM/AMCONSUL JERUSALEM PRIORITY 0226 RUEHPS/USOFFICE PRISTINA PRIORITY 0357 RUCNDT/USMISSION USUN NEW YORK PRIORITY 0316

UNCLAS ATHENS 000458

STPDTS

SENSITIVE SIPDIS

DEPARTMENT ALSO FOR EUR/ERA, EUR/SE

E.O. 12958: N/A

TAGS: PREL PGOV PHUM IS SY GR EUN ZL LE RS CH

SUBJECT: GOG RESPONSE TO U.S. POINTS ON MARCH GYMNICH AGENDA

REF: STATE 30504

SENSITIVE BUT UNCLASSIFIED -- PROTECT ACCORDINGLY

11. (SBU) Poloff delivered subject demarche on March 25 to Ms. Antonia Katzourou in the MFA's All Directorate for Common Foreign and Security Policy. While Katzourou appreciated the opportunity to review U.S. positions, she emphasized that the March 28-29 Foreign Ministers' Gymnich meeting will be a closed session limited to informal "brain storming" discussions and that no decisions will be taken. According to Katzourou, Greece plans to adhere to its well-known official positions on matters addressed in the subject demarche, with a particular emphasis on pressing for an EU focus on enhancing the European perspective in the Western Balkans. Katzourou further noted that a meeting of Westep countries will convene March Gymnich that willforth in the 2003 ThQHARD